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\nuc book 04\me and Bomb(s)

1940: Battle of Britain: Blitz. Magnesium bombs.

1943-44: Dad and bomber plants

1944: class assignment

1945: Hiroshima

1954: Dienbienphu (Ike nuclear offer to France): I'm at OCs.

1956: Suez: I'm there.

(Bulganin/Khrushchev nuclear threats)

(French start helping Israel! See Critical Mass 298)

(1958: **Iraq vs. Kuwait**: Ike nuclear threats: I learn by 1981)

1958-62

1961: I read Owen memo to JFK on France, XXX;

1961: fall: SNIE; RAND briefing; Berlin Game; JFK on CD; Gilpatric speech (first for JFK); K speech;

1962: Athens speech; Ann Arbor speech; BNSP (WWR); JSCP.
Cuba-II; Turkish missiles.

1963, morning of JFK assassination, **I read McG B memo on JFK decision to help France at test site. XXX (see my reaction)** [McN NATO speech]

1964: study of nuclear crises. **MHH study of 1958 Quemoy crisis**. Neustadt on Skybolt. (de Gaulle decides to have independent force?)

Chinese test, October 16 (K falls: Brezhnev promises to achieve parity). **ISA discussion of help to India; Rusk, McNamara; Gilpatric Committee and Report.**

Consideration of attack on China by hsr; by McNamara, with JCS (Chinese test of droppable bomb not till May, 1965).

[Note that we helped: UK; India; France; Israel; Pakistan; Iran (under Shah); Iraq(under Saddam); South Africa?

French helped: Israel; India; Iraq; South Africa

Occasions when nuclear bombs could have fallen into hands of rebels: (Critical Mass):
Algeria 1961; China 1967; Iran 1979 and Saddam (1991) change from friends to foes;
Russia 1991; Pakistan, could switch any day;
Atoms for Peace...

Countries use threats of massive annihilation to deter or prevent, not dangers of genocide but dangers of “national extinction”: being overrun, occupied. But what they threaten is genocide. And these threats and preparations can lead to real extinction: first, of “Northern” (not just Western) civilization, a culture of cities. And possibly, near-extinction of species: the first species to extinguish itself (along with others, many others). Eventual result: full extinction, thousands to millions of years before the “average life cycle” of a species would be ended by changes in environment external to itself.

(Will any complex animal have had as short a life term as a species, except—also!—by human hands?! Or will all the other animals we wiped out have lasted longer than we will, before we finished them and by the time we finish ourselves?

Humans: the killer ape. The Exterminator. The Rise and Fall of Civilization.